

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (withdrawn) A method of assembling a portable kiln to turn wood waste into a charcoal, comprising the steps of:

nesting components of an unassembled portable kiln one into the other, the components including at least a base and a cover;

transporting the unassembled portable kiln to a site of wood waste with a vehicle;

removing the base from the vehicle and positioning the base on ground at the site;

arranging a plurality of air channels about a periphery of the base each being spaced apart from each other;

filling the base with wood waste so as to avoid blocking the air channels with the wood waste; and

removing the cover from the vehicle and stacking the cover atop the base.

2.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, wherein the base includes a bottom section and an upper section, further comprising the steps of:

filling the bottom section with wood waste and stacking the upper section atop the bottom section, and then filling the upper section with wood waste, thereafter carrying out the stacking of the cover by stacking the cover atop the upper section.

3.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 2, wherein the bottom and upper sections each have a shelf spaced from their respective peripheral edges, the upper section having a bottom

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

supported on the shelf of the bottom section, the cover having a bottom supported on the shelf of the upper section.

4.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, further comprising gathering the wood waste at the site before the portable kiln is transported to the site and continuing to gather more wood waste and bringing more wood waste to the site after the kiln has been transported to the site.

5.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, wherein the cover has at least one port, further comprising starting a fire at a plurality of locations to burn the woodwaste inside the base.

6.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 5, wherein the air channels each have a collar arranged outside the base, further comprising positioning smokestacks on at least every other one of the collars after the woodwaste burns for a period of time.

7.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 6, wherein neighboring ones of the air channels define voids between them, further comprising waiting until a temperature within the body is suited for carbonization and then closing the voids with a sealing material and closing an open end of the air channels whose collars support the smokestacks so that only the air channels whose collars are free from supporting the smokestacks permit air flow into the base.

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

8.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 6, wherein the cover has ports, further comprising closing the ports and the smokestacks and the air channels by the time charring is complete.

9.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 6, wherein the collars include a group on which the smokestacks are arranged and a group on which none of the smokestacks are arranged, further comprising moving the smokestacks from the group of the collars where the smokestacks are arranged to the group of the collars on which none of the smokestacks are arranged during a period of carbonization.

10.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 6, further comprising creating a reverse drought in which air enters the base through the air channels that are free of supporting smokestacks and up through a center of the base and combustion gases are drawn down an outer edge of the base and released through the smokestacks.

11.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 5, further comprising allowing combustion of the woodwaste to take place and complete so as to thereafter enter a period of carbonization, compensating when necessary to ensure that even temperatures are maintained around a circumference of the base throughout the period of carbonization, the compensating including partially or completely blocking at least one of the air channels on a windward side if any and, in an event of water condensing on a hotter side of the base, temporarily blocking the air channels on the hotter side of the base and uncovering spaces between the air channels on a cooler side of the base to allow more air flow to enter.

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

12.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 6, further comprising cleaning the smokestacks of excessive tar buildup during the period of carbonization that creates a noticeable reduction in a quantity of smoke issuing from the smokestacks.

13.(withdrawn) A method of using a portable kiln to turn wood waste into a charcoal, comprising the steps of:

transporting the portable kiln to a site of wood waste;

assembling a portable kiln consisting of one bottom section, one upper section and one cover, wherein said cover contains one or more steam release ports, and wherein both the bottom section and upper section contain a supporting shelf for supporting successive layers of the portable kiln;

filling the bottom section with wood waste to a point where the supporting shelf of the bottom section remains exposed;

placing the upper section on the supporting shelf of the bottom section;

filling the upper section with wood waste to a point where the supporting shelf of the upper section remains exposed;

placing the conical cylindrical section on the supporting shelf of the upper section;

opening said one or more steam release ports; and

lighting the portable kiln.

14.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 13, where the portable kiln can be transported such that the cover can fit within the upper section.

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

15.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 13 where the portable kiln can be transported such that the upper section can fit within the lower section.

16.(withdrawn) A method as in claim 13 where steps (a) through (g) occur at the wood waste site.

17. (currently amended) A portable apparatus for making charcoal comprising:
a base having an open top and an open bottom, the base also having a shelf that extends about a periphery of an interior of the base;
a plurality of air channels spaced apart from each beneath the base;
a cover closing the open top and resting on the shelf, the cover having at least one port, the cover having a bottom that defines an outside area dimension, the bottom of the base having a bottom that encloses being configured to enclose an inside area dimension that is larger than the outside area dimension defined by a bottom of the cover, the shelf defining an inside area dimension that is smaller than the outside area dimension defined by the bottom of the cover, the cover having a distance in a direction of elevation that is smaller than a distance of elevation of the base.

18. (original) The apparatus as in claim 17 wherein the base includes a bottom section and an upper section, the upper section having the shelf, the bottom section having a further shelf on which is supported the upper section.

19.(original) The apparatus as in claim 17 wherein the base is cylindrical in shape.

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

20.(original) The apparatus as in claim 17 wherein the cover is conical.

21.(original) The apparatus as in claim 17, wherein the air channels have collars, further comprising a plurality of smokestacks fitted on every other one of the collars.

22.(currently amended) A portable apparatus for making charcoal comprising:
a base having an open top and an open bottom, the base also having a shelf that extends about a periphery of an interior of the base;
a cover configured to close the open top when resting on the shelf, the cover having at least one port, the cover having a bottom that defines an outside area dimension, the ~~base having a bottom of the base being configured to enclose~~ that encloses an inside area dimension that is larger than the outside area dimension defined by a bottom of the cover, the shelf defining an inside area dimension that is smaller than the outside area dimension defined by the bottom of the cover, the cover having a distance in a direction of elevation that is smaller than a distance of elevation of the base.

23. (original) The apparatus as in claim 22, further comprising a vehicle on which is arranged the base with the cover arranged within confines of the base.

24. (original) An apparatus as in claim 23, wherein the base has an upper section and a bottom section, the upper section having the shelf, the bottom section having a further shelf on which a bottom of the upper section is configured to be supported when stacked on top, the upper section

Application No. 10/058,677
Amendment Dated November 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 6, 2005

being within confines of the bottom section on the vehicle and the cover being within confines of the upper section on the vehicle, the bottom section having a dimension in an elevation direction that is larger than a dimension of in the elevation direction of the upper section.